

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 IOE-00 COA-02 EB-11

OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 AECE-00 AF-10 ARA-16

NEA-10 DRC-01 /255 W

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R 061259Z NOV 73Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7349

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4095

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, UN, NO

SUBJ: LOS: POSSIBLE EFFORT TO INVITE PRG TO PARTICIPATE
IN LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

REF: A. STATE 216882; B. OSLO 4066 (NOTAL)

1. MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS VIBE ON NOVEMBER 5 ON OTHER BUSINESS, DCM EXPRESSED OUR GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM(PRG) MIGHT BE INVITED BY THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ATTEND THE LOS CONFERENCE. VIBE RESPONDED DEFENSIVELY TO DCM'S PRESENTATION WHICH COVERED THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTEL A, AND SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER DECISION TO ABSTAIN COULD BE CHANGED.

2. VIBE SOUGHT TO JUSTIFY NORWAY'S ABSTENTION ON THIS QUESTION BY
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EXPLAINING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE PETITIONS UR-

GING NORWAY TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH SAIGON. VIBE SAID THAT NORWEGIAN PUBLIC OPINION WOULD HAVE TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING GOVERNMENTAL DECISION TO OPPOSE INVITATION TO INVITE PRG TO PARTICIPATE IN LOS CONFERENCE.

3. SPEAKING IN PERSONAL CAPACITY, DCM STRESSED THE IRRESPONSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING HIGHLY POLITICAL ISSUE INTO SUCH AN IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE CONFERENCE. HE NOTED THAT THE USG ALSO RECEIVES MANY COMPLAINTS, SOME OF THEM INVOLVING THE UNITED NATIONS; HE WAS FRANK TO SAY THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS OFTEN HARD PRESSED TO EXPLAIN TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ACTION TAKEN AT THE UNITED NATIONS WHICH APPEAR IRRESPONSIBLE. COUNTRIES WHICH ARE AS CONCERNED AS NORWAY, TO STRENGTHEN THE AUTHORITY AND COMPETENCE OF THE UN SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE LONG-TERM IMPLICATION OF ACTIONS WHICH STRENGTHEN DISILLUSIONMENT REGARDING THE UN AMONG THOSE IN CONGRESS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FUNDING A GOOD SHARE OF ITS OPERATIONS.

4. VIBE AGREED THAT THE PRECEDENT OF INVITING THE PRG WAS AN UNDESIRABLE ONE. HE RECALLED FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND'S QUERY CONCERNING THE VOTE COUNT ON THIS QUESTION (REFTEL B). WHILE DCM SAID HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON THIS POINT, HE NOTED THAT IT IS THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT NORWAY'S DECISION TO ABSTAIN OR VOTE "NO" WILL INFLUENCE THE VOTE OF ICELAND AND AUSTRIA. VIBE SAID IN CONCLUSION THAT NORWAY WOULD CERTAINLY REVIEW ITS POSITION ON THIS QUESTION, IN THE LIGHT OF THE EMBASSY'S DEMARCHE, BUT HE COULD NOT SAY WHAT THE OUTCOME WOULD BE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OSLO04095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731152/aaaabmdt.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 216882; B. OSLO 4066 (NOTAL,)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <03-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: POSSIBLE EFFORT TO INVITE PRG TO PARTICIPATE IN LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, NO, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005